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Question of Cyprus

Security Council
Seventy-second year

Letter dated 13 March 2017 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 10 March 2017, addressed to you by Mehmet Dâná, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex).

I would be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 41, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Feridun H. **Sinirlioğlu**
Permanent Representative

17-04293 (E) 210317

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Annex to the letter dated 13 March 2017 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I am writing in response to the letter dated 23 February 2017 addressed to you by the Greek Cypriot representative in New York and circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council (A/71/807-S/2017/164), which yet again contains false assertions similar to those made in his previous letters. In order to set the record straight, I would like to bring the following to your kind attention.

At the outset, regarding the claims of so-called "infringements of international air traffic regulations" and "violations of the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by Turkey", I wish, once again, to reiterate that flights within the sovereign airspace of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus take place with the full knowledge and consent of the relevant authorities of the State, over which the Greek Cypriot administration in South Cyprus has no jurisdiction or right of say whatsoever. The civil aviation authority of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus is the sole competent authority to provide air traffic and aeronautical information services within its own national airspace. As to the false assertion regarding "illegally issued" notices to airmen, it must be underlined that activities within the Ercan advisory airspace that require notices to airmen are carried out by the relevant authorities of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus in accordance with article 3 of the Convention on International Civil Aviation (Chicago Convention).

Similarly, the claim in the letter regarding the Turkish Cypriot ports is also baseless, given the fact that the Greek Cypriot administration has no jurisdiction or right of say over Northern Cyprus. Furthermore, this claim ignores the present realities on the ground, namely, the existence of two independent self-governing States on the island of Cyprus, each exercising sovereignty and jurisdiction within its respective territory.

As to the repeated false allegations regarding Ercan Airport in the North, it should once again be underlined that the technologically up-to-date Ercan area control centre and airport in North Cyprus have been providing regular, reliable and safe air traffic services since the Greek Cypriot refusal in 1977 to provide air traffic services in the northern part of the island, in line with its isolation policy that has been imposed on the Turkish Cypriot people. Ever since, all flights within the sovereign airspace of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus have taken place with the full knowledge and permission of the Civil Aviation Department of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, over which the Greek Cypriot administration in South Cyprus has no jurisdiction or control. Furthermore, I would like to stress that the allegation regarding interference with radio frequencies is also totally baseless.

Moreover, the isolation imposed on the Turkish Cypriots, which the Greek Cypriot side attempts to perpetuate by encouraging the international community to deem all airports and seaports in Northern Cyprus "illegal", is in complete contravention of international law, as well as the call made by the then Secretary-General, Kofi Annan, in his report to the Security Council dated 28 May 2004 (S/2004/437), in which he clearly states "I would hope they [members of the Security Council] can give a strong lead to all States to cooperate both bilaterally and in international bodies to eliminate unnecessary restrictions and barriers that have the effect of isolating the Turkish Cypriots and impeding their development, deeming such a move as consistent with Security Council resolutions 541 (1983) and 550 (1984)".

The legislation of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus on aeronautical safety meets all standards and recommendations of the International Civil Aviation Organization, providing safe and swift navigation of aircraft landing at or taking off from Ercan Airport and using airspace of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. All airports in Northern Cyprus are in full conformity with international standards, and necessary investments have been made to keep up with the developing technology. The number of air traffic controllers has been increased in accordance with the increasing number of flights over the years, and the Ercan area control centre is in regular and close cooperation with the Ankara area control centre in order to ensure the safe conduct of all flights in the region. In 2016 alone, the number of passengers that used Ercan Airport stood at 3,628,887; this number is expected to be around 3,900,000 in 2017. Moreover, in 2016, 27,109 planes used Ercan Airport for arrival and departure, and 210,789 planes used the Ercan advisory airspace; these numbers are expected to be around 28,080 and 225,000, respectively, in 2017. In that regard, it must also be stressed that the Turkish Cypriot side is committed to upholding the highest standards in the field of air navigation safety, in full conformity with the Chicago Convention of 1944, and that it is ready to cooperate with the Greek Cypriot authorities on this very important issue.

At a time when the comprehensive settlement negotiations are at a critical stage, I deem it necessary to stress the need to fully channel all our efforts towards achieving a just and lasting settlement of the Cyprus conflict in line with the established United Nations parameters and the Joint Declaration of 11 February 2014, which envisage a new partnership on the basis of the political equality of the two peoples of the island within the framework of a bizonal, bicommunal federation with two constituent States of equal status. Moreover, the Greek Cypriot administration should once again be reminded that its counterpart is, and has always been, the Turkish Cypriot side, not Turkey.

Availing myself of the present opportunity, I would like to call upon the Greek Cypriot side to discontinue such counterproductive and outdated rhetoric, which is not reflective of the joint vision and cooperation expressed by the leaders of both communities on the island since the resumption of the settlement talks in May 2015. As the two future partners in the island of Cyprus, we should never lose sight of the fact that the solution of the Cyprus problem will comprehensively deal with all pending issues between the two sides and thus focus all our efforts towards the ultimate goal of settlement.

Finally, I would like to reiterate that, as the Turkish Cypriot side, we are committed to maintaining our constructive and positive stance for a results-oriented negotiating process within the context of your good offices mission in Cyprus and encourage our Greek Cypriot neighbours to follow a similar path.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 41, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mehmet **Dânâ**
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

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General Assembly
Seventy-first session
Agenda items 32 and 37

Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan

Security Council
Seventy-second year

Letter dated 10 March 2017 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instruction from my Government, I have the honour to convey herewith the record of violations of the ceasefire by the Republic of Armenia in January 2017 (see annex).* During the reporting period, Armenia violated the ceasefire regime 992 times and continued the usage of large-calibre guns and heavy weaponry from its positions in the occupied territories of the Republic of Azerbaijan and from its own territory.

The continuous occupation of a large part of the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan by the armed forces of Armenia remains the main obstacle to the settlement of the conflict and the only source of the escalation of the situation on the front line and the occurrence of hostilities and casualties.

The sooner the Republic of Armenia withdraws its troops from the occupied territories of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the sooner peace and stability can be restored in the region.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 32 and 37, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yashar **Aliyev**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* The annex is being circulated in the language of submission only.

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Annex to the letter dated 10 March 2017 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Violations of the ceasefire by the armed forces of the Republic of Armenia for January 2017*

Date (weeks)	*Direction (locality)*	*Weapons used*	*Number of ceasefire violations*	*Casualties and damage*
1-31 January	**Agham district, Azerbaijan**			
	Bash Garvand village	PKM	3	
	Garagashly village	60-mm; 82-mm; 120-mm M/SVD	4	
	Garagashly and Chamanly villages	AK	4	
	Javahyrly village	AK/AKM/DShK	8	
	Merzili village	AK	3	
	Saryjaly village	AK	3	
	Shuraabad village	AK	10	
	Shykhlar village	AK	9	
	Shyrvanly village	AK	5	
	Yusifjanly village	AK	5	
	Yusifjanly and Gyamaddynly villages	AK	7	
	Aghjabadi district, Azerbaijan			
	Kangarly village	AK	2	
	Agstafa district, Azerbaijan			
	Kohna Gyshlag village	AKM	1	
	Fizuli district, Azerbaijan			
	Ashaghy Abdurrahmanly village	AK	53	
	Ashaghy Seyidahmadly village	AK	14	
	Ashaghy Seyidahmadly and Alikhanly villages	AK	25	
	Ashaghy Veysalli village	AK	1	
	Garakhanbeyli village	AK	5	
	Horadiz village	AK	28	
	Kurdlar and Ashaghy Abdurrahmanly villages	AK	4	
	Korgan and Ashaghy Abdurrahmanly villages	AK/AKM	14	
	Korgan and Shukurbayli villages	AK	1	
	Unnamed heights	AK/AKM/60-mm M/ DShK	133	
	Gazakh district, Azerbaijan			
	Ashagy Askipara village	AK	2	
	Bala Jafarli village	AK/PKM/AKM	5	
	Jafarli village	PK/AK/PKM	8	

Abbreviations: AK, Kalashnikov assault rifle; AKM, modernized Kalashnikov assault rifle; DShK, heavy machine gun; OSV-96, semi-automatic sniper rifle; PK, Kalashnikov machine gun; PKM, modernized Kalashnikov machine gun; RPG, handheld anti-tank grenade launcher; SVD, sniper rifle; 60-mm/82-mm/120-mm M, mortar.

* Settlements of the Republic of Azerbaijan included in this information are under occupation by the Republic of Armenia or situated close to the fire point areas.

Date (weeks)	*Direction (locality)*	*Weapons used*	*Number of ceasefire violations*	*Casualties and damage*
	Farahli village	AKM/DShK	3	
	Gaymagly village	AK/PKM/AKM	13	
	Gushchu Ayrum village	AK	7	
	Gyzylhajili village	AK/AKM	17	
	Kamarli village	AK/AKM	12	
	Kohna Gyshlag village	AK/AKM	3	
	Unnamed heights	AK/AKM	30	
	Gedebey district, Azerbaijan			
	Garavallylar village	AK/AKM	3	
	Unnamed heights	AKM	4	
	Goranboy district, Azerbaijan			
	Gulustan village	AKM/DShK/PKM	11	
	Tapgaragoyunlu village	AK/AKM/PKM/RPG	45	
	Unnamed heights	DShK/AK/AKM	52	
	Goygol district, Azerbaijan			
	Unnamed heights	AK	2	
	Jabrayil district, Azerbaijan			
	Mehdili village	AK	15	
	Nuzgar village and Lala Ilahi heights	AK/AKM	11	
	Unnamed heights	AK	9	
	Khojavand district, Azerbaijan			
	Kuropatkino village	AK/AKM/PKM	67	
	Unnamed heights	AK/AKM/PKM	66	
	Tartar district, Azerbaijan			
	Chayly village	AK	12	
	Gazyan village	60-mm/82-mm M	2	
	Jerabert village	AK/AKM	22	
	Karmiravan village	AK/AKM/DShK/SVD	37	
	Levonarkh and Hasangaya villages	AK	1	
	Levonarkh village	AK/AKM	24	
	Nemirli village	AK	2	
	Yarymja village	AK	3	
	Tovuz district, Azerbaijan			
	Aghdam village	AKM/DShK	12	
	Aghbulag village	AK/AKM/PKM/ OSV-96	71	
	Alibayli village	AK/AKM/PKM	35	
	Garalar village	AK/AKM	3	
	Kokhanabi village	AKM/AK/PKM/ DShK/OSV-96	38	
	Munjuglu village	AKM	1	
	Unnamed heights	AKM	2	